

CLASSIFICATION

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Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R00670

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

25X1A

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR 24 JAN 61

SUBJECT Activities in Stralsund Harbor

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

25X1A  
25X1C

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1X

Stralsund harbor has undergone few changes. There have been no outstanding improvements in the fairway or berthing facilities. There are no anti-aircraft installations, fortifications or gun positions. Many dwellings have been built for shipyard workers. No naval activity has been observed in the harbor. Few Soviet soldiers are seen in the town. The harbor is closed off from the rest of the town and is closely guarded by the People's Police. One sees planes over the town but seldom, although a few jet planes have been observed during the past year. The former spur railway line to the Strength through Joy beach no longer exists. There are no unusual constructions or installations on the beach.

Last September Stralsund was crowded with young German soldiers and officers of the Sea Police. They were wearing German Navy uniforms with insignia of rank. These people have now been moved to Parow which is being reconstructed and are seldom seen in Stralsund.

A small shipyard known as the Union-Werft is located in the former buoy yard where buoy-laying vessels were moored. It works in connection with a shipyard in Wismar. The larger People's-Owned Shipyard is building luggers and cutters in sections. The luggers are designed for a crew of 16 men; the cutters for a crew of 4. Work in the People's-Owned Shipyard is carried on in three shifts of eight hours each, including Sundays. Together the two shipyards employ about 4,500 persons.

The former German airfield at Bug on Ruegen is still in ruins. Nothing has been reconstructed. No work is being done on the Ruegen Harbor Project.\* The traffic between Sassnitz and Traelleborg, Sweden is heavy and is handled by the Swedish ferry companies.

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Comment: The Ruegen Harbor Project was a plan for a harbor big enough to build and base large naval vessels, including aircraft carriers. It was begun before 1939 and was abandoned when the Germans acquired Gdynia. At the end of the war, the plans were given to the Soviets and it had been thought that they might revive the project. There are also rumors that they will construct a submarine base there.

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2004/03/05

By: 01

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

**R006700440011.2**  
Next Review Date: 2008

Approved For Release 2001/03/05 : CIA-RDP82-00457R006700440011-2